

THE IMMANUEL MESSENGER

942 Grape Avenue, Fisher, IL 61843-8512

(217-897-6170)



Immanuel Lutheran Church of Osman
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod
Reverend Jeffrey McPike, BCC

November 2022



From Pastor McPike's Desk...

This year, 2022, is the 175th Anniversary of the LCMS, which was founded in April 1847. This is the seventh installment of the Synod's history. This edition will look at the Synod's two seminaries, Concordia Seminary in St. Louis and Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne.

The two seminaries of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod both predate the Synod's official founding in 1847. The oldest, *Concordia Seminary*, was founded in Altenberg, Missouri in 1839. As was already discussed in a previous edition of this series, a log-cabin was built in 1839 as the first real structure by the Saxon immigrants while most were still living in temporary housing. This showed how serious that these early settlers were about Lutheran education.

The cabin has been preserved in Altenburg by the Concordia Historical Society. When seeing the size of it, it is difficult to imagine that students and Prof. Walther lived in the cabin as well as used it for a classroom setting. Such was life on the frontier!

The school used the cabin for about ten years. In 1849, the programs were moved from Perry County to St. Louis. At that time, it consisted of a "preparatory division" as well as a School of Theology. At the beginning of the Civil War, the "preparatory division" was moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana. At the same time, due to the likelihood of students being drafted into the Union Army, the program of Concordia Theological Seminary was moved to the campus of Concordia Seminary on South Jefferson Street, and the two schools coexisted, both with Dr. Walther as their president until the 1870s. Around 1876, the two schools had outgrown their ability to coexist, and the Fort Wayne or "Practical Seminary" program was moved to the former Illinois State University campus at Springfield, Illinois.

The St. Louis Seminary grew, outgrowing the buildings that were erected on South Jefferson. Newer buildings were erected in the same area, serving the seminary until the 1920s. In 1926, a new, beautiful campus was built in gothic academic style in Clayton, Missouri which is actually a suburb of St. Louis. This campus has been expanded over the years. In 1992, a new chapel was built, using materials to match the rest of the campus.

Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne

An earlier edition talked about the founding of the Fort Wayne or “Practical” Seminary by Rev. Wilhelm Löhe in Bavaria and Rev. Wilhelm Sihler, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne. The school was officially founded in 1846, and later gifted to the new Synod in 1847. Concordia Theological Seminary was a practical institution, able to take men from any walk of life and varied the length of the program to certify them as preachers. In the first 75 or so years of the school’s existence, no academic degrees were given. Students were prepared for ministry and given a “Diploma of Vocation” – meaning that they were credentialed to be pastors in the LCMS.

Because students were able to be prepared so quickly, there was a bit of alarm raised when it was noticed that the percentage of pastors from Fort Wayne was far greater than the number from the St. Louis Seminary. Still, the need on the frontier was great, and the church was growing at record numbers, mostly due to immigration from Germany and Scandinavia.

As mentioned above, the program of Concordia Theological Seminary was moved in 1861 to the campus of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. At the same time, the “Prep school” or preparatory division of Concordia Seminary was moved to Fort Wayne. The reasons for this were pragmatic. Indiana drafted young men into the Union Army for the Civil War. The students in the “Preparatory Division” were too young for the draft and could safely live in Fort Wayne. The students at the Fort Wayne seminary were old enough to be drafted and were thus moved to the St. Louis campus, as there was no draft in Missouri into either Union or Confederate army.

The two schools co-existed through the 1860s until the mid-1870s under the presidency of Dr. Walther. In the mid-1870s, it became apparent that the campus in St. Louis was not large enough for both. Property of the former Illinois State University, in Springfield was purchased. The “practical” seminary program remained at Springfield for about a century.

Concordia Senior College, and the Concordia College system

The Preparatory division that moved to Fort Wayne in 1861 is what would later become “Concordia Senior College”. That school was a two-year program, the “junior/senior” years of a four-year baccalaureate degree. A system of Junior Colleges, some starting as a combination of residential high schools and two-year junior colleges grew up. The junior colleges educated Lutheran School teachers as well as provided the pre-seminary education for students bound to be more “professional theologians”. The track of this educational system was a four-year residential high school, two years of junior college (all six years on the same campus) and then either graduate to teach school or move on to the Senior college in Fort Wayne to complete a four year degree en-route to the seminary in St. Louis. This system was modeled after the German education system.

The post WWII years saw a huge increase in students headed toward the seminary. The Senior college in Fort Wayne had outgrown downtown Fort Wayne facilities. In the 1950s, the Kramer family of Fort Wayne donated a large tract of land in the north part of the city. A new, larger campus was built for the senior college which was dedicated in 1959. The architecture of that school is in the style of a Bavarian Village, with a very large, imposing chapel structure as the focal point.

Next month: Reorganization of the Concordia College System

November Lawn Mowers

During the month of November, the trustees will take over the job of mowing the church property. With the early frosts and the cooler temperatures, the grass has quit growing but some leaf raking may still be necessary. Thank you to all of the members who mowed from April through October. Your service is very much appreciated!



Ladies Aid/LWML

The Ladies Aid/LWML ladies will meet on Thursday, November 10th at 1:00 PM in the fellowship hall. (NOTICE THE TIME CHANGE!) The topic will be given by Connie Warsaw and the hostesses will be Debbie Lammle and Sue VanWakeman. Roll call will be answered with your favorite Thanksgiving dessert as a response.

Quilting

The ladies will be quilting on Monday, November 7th at 8 AM and on Wednesday, November 9th at 12:30 PM. This will be the beginning of the new count of quilts for the year as the 91 quilts that were completed last year were shipped to Lutheran World Relief and Orphan Grain Train in the month of October. All ladies of the congregation are invited to help with this mission project.

New Church Parking Lot Signs



Three new parking lot signs were installed in late September at the entrances to the parking lot areas. The signs indicate that the parking lots are for church parking to discourage other people from parking on church property. The signs also have a side note that memberships are available on Sunday mornings! Thank you to Lee Whitehouse and Don Warsaw for completing this project.

Church Officers Needed

In January 2023 the church council will be needing names to fill the election ballot. The positions that will need to be filled on the council will be a secretary, two elders, one trustee, and one assistant financial secretary. Be thinking about how YOU can use your talents to serve the congregation. There will be a sign-up sheet on the back bulletin board in the near future.

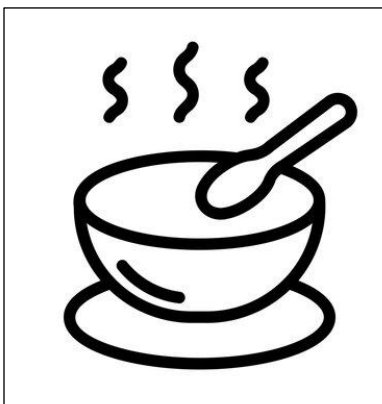
Time Change

Daylight Saving Time will end on November 6th so DO NOT FORGET to set clocks BACK an hour before bedtime on Saturday, November 5th. The U.S. Senate passed the “Sunshine Protection Act” that would make daylight saving time permanent after the clocks spring forward in March of next year, but the House of Representatives has not yet passed it, so it has not been signed into law by President Biden.

Thank You

Thank you to my thoughtful and loving congregation! You have done so much to help keep my spirits high. Thanks for all the meaningful cards, flowers, prayers, and the delicious food from the Ladies Aid/LWML. Having assistance from our church family means all the world to us! Thanks again, Debbie Lammle

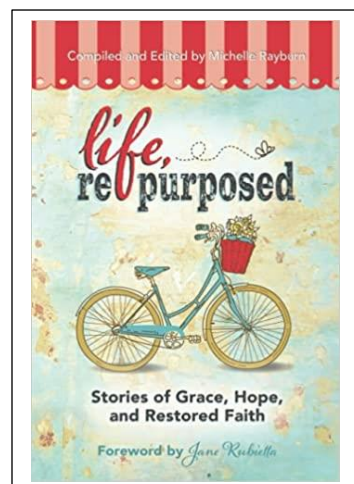
Benefit Soup Supper



Mark your calendars now for a benefit soup supper which will be held on Saturday, November 12, in the fellowship hall from 4:30 PM to 7 PM. The menu will include oyster soup, potato soup, chili, sandwiches, and desserts. The recipient will be Janice Harden who was diagnosed with cancer several years ago and has had several reoccurrences recently. She is a resident of Bellflower and was employed at Blue Ridge High School as a teachers’ aide until her recent diagnosis. The food donation sheet is posted on the back bulletin board.

An Author Among Us

An author among us! Annette Warsaw had a selection printed in a book titled Life...Repurposed. It is a book filled with stories of grace, hope, and restored faith. “You will find comfort, inspiration, and wisdom in these stories written by women. Every encouraging account shows hope and renewed faith as they have come through trials and tough times, including family struggles, infertility, health challenges, doubt, fear, human trafficking, depression, heartbreak, loss, and more.” Annette’s selection is titled “Worn Yet Wanted.” The paperback book is available for purchase for \$10. There are a few copies on the back pew. There is also an envelope to put the money in.



Church Council Meeting

The next church council meeting will be on Wednesday, November 16th at 6:30 PM. This is a change due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Hail Damage Report

In mid-September a storm with wind and hail passed through the Osman community. Insurance adjusters were asked to inspect the roof on the church and the fellowship hall. The adjusters determined that the roofs had damage and needed new shingles. The total expenses will be paid by the insurance after the \$2500 deductible is paid. One check has already been received by the church and the remaining check will be sent after the job is complete. Two estimates will be obtained before the council decides on what roofing company will complete the job.

Orphan Grain Train



Orphan Grain Train sent a box truck to pick up donations at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Springfield on Saturday, October 22nd. Our ladies sent 2 blankets, 7 quilts, 10 school kits, and 10 health kits. The items donated from the Springfield area filled the truck to capacity. The truck was then driven to the St. Louis headquarters where the sacks and boxes of donations will be sorted and shipped to places in need.

Communion Distribution

Communion distribution inside the church will return to a group of 6-7 members going to the altar at a time to receive Communion which will be similar to the plan that was used before COVID. This will start during the worship service on Sunday, November 6th. The Baptismal font will remain in the center of the aisle and the communicants will go to the right or the left of it. There will be a plate on the front pews on each side to drop your Communion card in. If you have a problem communing in a group, please talk to Pastor or an elder. The outside distribution will remain the same.

Upcoming Church Services

All Saints Service – Sunday, November 6th – during regular worship service

Thanksgiving Service – Sunday, November 20th – 7 PM

Advent Service – Sunday, November 27th - during regular worship service

Christmas Eve Service – Saturday, December 24th – 7 PM

Christmas Day Service – Sunday, December 25th – during regular worship service



November Birthdays

11-02....Deb Peyton
 11-03....C. J. Genzel
 11-06....Lee Whitehouse
 11-10....Malachi Johnson
 11-11....Karen Bryan
 11-11....Brent Lutz
 11-13....Randy Zimmerman
 11-14....Steve Warsaw
 11-15....Dwight Hooker
 11-16....Rick Hardesty
 11-19....Mary Beth Duncan
 11-22....Agnes Watson
 11-25....Jenna Clemmons

<u>Date</u>	<u>Worship</u>	<u>Bible Class</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
October 2	45	7	3
October 9	43	9	1
October 16	42	10	1
October 23	40	9	1



11-03-2001...Annette and Jeff Warsaw
 11-16-2002...Stefani and Greg Warsaw
 11-20-2016...Rong and Aaron Warsaw
 11-22-1969...Connie and Don Warsaw
 11-26-1983...Anne and Bill Amdor

Advent

(Taken from "What is Advent?" written by Mary Fairchild)

Advent is a period of spiritual preparation in which many Christians make themselves ready for the coming, or birth of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Celebrating Advent typically involves a season of prayer, fasting, and repentance, followed by anticipation, hope, and joy. Many Christians celebrate Advent not only by thanking God for Christ's first coming to Earth as a baby, but also for his presence among us today through the Holy Spirit, and in preparation and anticipation of his final coming at the end of the age. Advent starts this year on Sunday, November 27th.

Lighting an Advent wreath is a custom that began with Lutherans and Catholics in 16th-century Germany. Typically, the Advent wreath is a circle of branches or garland with four or five candles arranged on the wreath. During the season of Advent, one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday. The advent candles and their colors are packed with rich meaning. Each represents a specific aspect of the spiritual preparations for Christmas. The three main colors are purple, pink, and white. Purple symbolizes repentance and royalty. Pink represents joy and rejoicing. And white stands for purity and light.

Each candle carries a specific name as well. The first purple candle is called the Prophecy Candle or Candle of Hope. The second purple candle is the Bethlehem Candle or the Candle of Preparation. The third (pink) candle is the Shepherd Candle or Candle of Joy. The fourth candle, a purple one, is called the Angel Candle or the Candle of Love. And the last (white) candle is the Christ Candle.